



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**MAYOR JERRY SANDERS
PRESS RELEASE**

***HARRY POTTER AND THE DEATHLY HOLLOWES* KNIGHT BUS
TO APPEAR AT MISSION VALLEY BRANCH LIBRARY ON JULY 5**

SAN DIEGO – The Knight Bus rolls straight off the pages of the popular Harry Potter books and into San Diego on July 5. The unique, purple triple-decker bus that rescues stranded witches and wizards as described in the Harry Potter books, will be at the San Diego Public Library's Mission Valley Branch in Fenton Marketplace from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Scholastic, the U.S. publisher of the Harry Potter books, selected San Diego as one of 37 cities to host the seven-week-long bus tour, which culminates at Scholastic headquarters in New York City for the release of the seventh and final book on July 21, 2007.

To celebrate the bus' visit and the July 21 release of the final book in the Harry Potter series, *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hollows* (book #7), the San Diego Public Library is holding an activity-filled celebration. For two weeks (ending June 22), each of the San Diego Public

Library's 35 branches accepted sweepstakes entries from San Diego's Harry Potter fans ages 8 - 18 for a chance to board the bus and record a short video on their reflections on the books. Each branch selected six sweepstakes entrants to board the bus on July 5.

"A select number of lucky Harry Potter fans will board the bus and make a video to share their thoughts about the Harry Potter books," said San Diego Public Library Youth Services Coordinator Marina Claudio-Perez. "This will be an exciting day to celebrate everything Harry Potter and invite everyone who loves these books to see the bus and enjoy all the activities we have planned."

Planned for the event are magic shows, face painters, magic-inspired hat making, bounce houses, music and a Harry Potter-themed trivia challenge. Attendees are encouraged to come dressed as their favorite Harry Potter character and enter the costume contest. Prizes will be awarded in four age categories (including adult). There will also be drawings throughout the day for gift give away items.

A special “Hogwarts Express” trolley will deliver attendees to the festivities. Those attending the event can park for free at the Qualcomm stadium trolley stop (which will be known as Platform 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ for the day) and take the short ride to the library (and return) on a special, free trolley. “We thank the San Diego Metropolitan System for their assistance in delivering Harry Potter fans to the event,” said Ms. Claudio-Perez.

The Knight Bus Tour celebration is the kick-off of many other San Diego Public Library Harry Potter related events for July. Some of those activities include:

- ◆ **Saturday, July 7th, 12:00 p.m.**
Logan Heights Branch Library
"Get a Clue with Harry Potter"
Weekly craft time with Sharon Chifton to create a project based on the Harry Potter Books
- ◆ **Thursday July 19, 10:30 a.m.**
Central Library
Joe Mystic Magic Show
- ◆ **Saturday, July 21, 10:30 a.m.**
Benjamin Branch Library
Magician Craig Stone, crafts and refreshments
- ◆ **Saturday, July 21, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.**
Mira Mesa Branch Library
Harry Potter Costume Party
Three *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hollows* books will be given to contestants who have the most realistic, most creative or scariest costume. Cake and wizard's punch will be available at the party. Other Harry Potter prizes will be rewarded for answering questions.
- ◆ **Tuesday, July 24th, 2:00 p.m.**
La Jolla Branch Library
Joe Mystic Magic Show
- ◆ **Tuesday, July 24th, 10:00 a.m.**
Paradise Hills Branch Library
Craig Stone's Magic Show.
Harry Potter books and movies on display.
- ◆ **July 25th at 6:30 PM**
Rancho Penasquitos Branch Library
Harry Potter Party:

Trivia game to win *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hollows* book

More Harry Potter events are being planned. Check the San Diego Public Library website regularly at www.sandiegolibraries.org for the most current listing.

In addition to the events, on July 21st, the San Diego library will have 303 copies of *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hollows* books, 10 books on cassette, and 51 books on CD on order that will be added to the City of San Diego Public Library collection for circulation. The library's catalog records will be updated on July 17, so customers can go online to reserve these items. On July 21, the date of the book release, the lucky people at the top of the reserves list will be able to pick up their copies at their local branches. The San Diego Public Library has also purchased another 200 copies of *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hollows*, which will be given away at local branch raffles. See your local branch library for more details.

"I am pleased that the San Diego Public Library's Harry Potter events and the release of the last book in the series are generating so much excitement and fostering the love of reading among Harry Potter fans of all ages," said Mayor Jerry Sanders. "I encourage attendance at these events and hope that folks will check out the wealth of books, media, other materials and many programs and services we offer throughout our Library system."

About San Diego Public Library

San Diego Public Library, which is the largest library system in the region, serves a population of more than 1.2 million people. Its mission is to respond to the information needs of San Diego's diverse communities; ensure equal access to local, national and global resources; anticipate and address the educational, cultural, business and recreational interests of the public; and develop and provide welcoming environments. For more about the San Diego Public Library, please see <http://www.sandiegolibrary.org>.

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